

Monday, 19 December 2016

Psalms 91:1-3, 9-11

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence....Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

A magnificent hymn of confidence in the goodness of the LORD, God, the Almighty. It is difficult not to include the entire Psalm in this meditation for it rings with the results of trust.

There are elements of every aspect of life alluded to in the Psalm; I have nothing to fear when I trust Him for He has commanded His angels to guard me continuously.

Praise Him for His goodness to the children of men.

Tuesday, 20 December 2016

Psalms 93:5

Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

It boils down to a very simple concept: Obedience leads to holiness. As I become willing to trust and obey, I find that I am advancing as a disciple of Jesus Christ, ie, the process of sanctification. The righteousness, peace and joy of life in the Kingdom begin to become dominant in my life.

Wednesday, 21 December 2016

Psalms 103:19-22

The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his

word! Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will! Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

An important progression here from His angels, the mighty ones who bless Him through obedience to a directive to me to do likewise. His Kingdom rules over all; I am an important part of that 'all'. I am to bless Him beginning in the innermost part of my being.
Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Thursday, 22 December 2016

Psalms 106:3

Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!

"Observe (execute) justice." Just one of the 131 references to justice in the ESV translation. We often quote Micah 6:8 but forget that Matthew 25:31-46 deals with applied/unapplied justice.

What greater blessing than to hear my Lord say to me, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

Friday, 23 December 2016

Psalms 106:25

They murmured in their tents, and did not obey the voice of the LORD.

This Psalm is a repetitive recitation of the the process of the LORD's goodness, the obedient response of His people and then the falling away into the ways of the world around them until they cry out in repentance. How often do I find myself on the same destructive path. Praise the Lord for He has sent the Holy Spirit to lead me into all truth and to remind me of all that He has said. It is often times a process of two forward and one or more back.

Saturday, 24 December 2016

Psalms 111:7-10

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name! The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

There is another interesting connection here between the phrases "His precepts are trustworthy" and "to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness." That connection is the implication of obedience. Or might it be phrased that since His precepts are trustworthy, we are to perform them obediently.

Discipleship is obedience driven!

Lord's Day, 25 December 2016

Merry Christmas

Psalm 119:65-66

You have dealt well with your servant, O LORD, according to your word. Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.

A most appropriate word as I face tomorrow's meeting.
You have and will deal with me according to Your word,
You will provide good judgment and knowledge for me.
These will be available for me tomorrow, I need only listen to Your Holy Spirit.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



December 19-25, 2016

I was dealing with a very difficult and perplexing problem in the spring of 1989 and tackling it by trying to learn everything I could on the subject. One evening, as I continued my studies, God told me very clearly that the root of the problem was that I did not know Him. I put down the book I was reading and picked up a Bible figuring that was where I was going to find Him. That began what has been a 27-year search to know, really know in a John 17:3 way, the Lord, God the Almighty.*

Voices Together has and continues to be, a very important part of that search. It is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Scriptures as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven
The Church at Prison, Inc.
PO Box 8318
Essex Junction, VT 05452

or at
The Fellowship of Ailbe, voices@ailbe.org
Realizing the presence, promise and power
of the Kingdom of God.

*LORD or LORD, God the Almighty always refers to the Trinitarian God.